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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

CONSTRUCTION STARTED
ON NEW PRAGUE BRIDGE

NEW BRIDGE IN PRAGUE -- Price, No 130, 3 Jun 49

Work was recently begun on the new Stefanik Bridge over the Vltava in Prague. The bridge, to be 24 meters wide, will cost 80 million crowns. It will be on the site of the old chain bridge which was dismantled by the Germans during the war. The bridge will be completed by 1951.

On 1 June the first blocks of concrete were made for the guide pillars. A cable crane carries a 0.75-cubic-meter bucket of concrete from the mixer to the shore every 5 minutes. This is used for the caissons, which are to use 270 cubic meters of concrete and weigh 700 tons. The reinforced-concrete construction of the caissons will be 5.20 meters high.

Since the concrete work is so important now, 147 employees are working in two shifts, from 0600 to 2200.

RAIL LINE TO BE TRIPLE-TRACKED -- Lidova Demokracie, No 116, 18 May 49

One of the tasks of the Five-Year Plan in transport is to triple-track the Prague-Liben-Poriciany line. The Spilaska Nova Ves-Zilina line will be electrified first, and then the Prague-Ceska Trebova line. Some stations are 60 - 80 years old and should be replaced. One of the most modern stations in Europe will be built in Pardubice.

POSTAL, TELEPHONE SERVICE IN 1948 -- Lidova Demokracie, No 129, 2 Jun 49

The Postal Service handled 35,371,000 pieces of registered mail, 30,763,000 packages, and 99,996,000 checks and payments in 1946. COD mail amounted to 3,932,000 pieces, with a value of 4,318,000,000 crowns.

In all, 7,734 telegrams, both domestic and international were sent, and 419,000,000 local and 50,000,000 interurban telephone calls were made. A total of 1,580,000 minutes were spent on phone calls to other countries, and 1,236,000 minutes on incoming calls.

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RESERVES

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